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(54) An apparatus comprising a plate and a fastener for connecting the plate to a bone portion

(57) An apparatus comprises a member connectable with a bone portion and having surface means defining an opening. A fastener is extendable through the opening in the member to connect the member to the bone portion. The fastener has a first portion for engaging the bone portion, a second portion, and a longitudinal axis. The second portion of the fastener is expandable into engagement with the surface means defining the opening to prevent relative movement between the fastener and the member. The fastener includes an expander for expanding the second portion into engagement with the surface means defining the first opening. The fastener is positionable in any one of a plurality of positions relative to the member in which the longitudinal axis of the fastener extends at an angle relative to the axis of the opening.

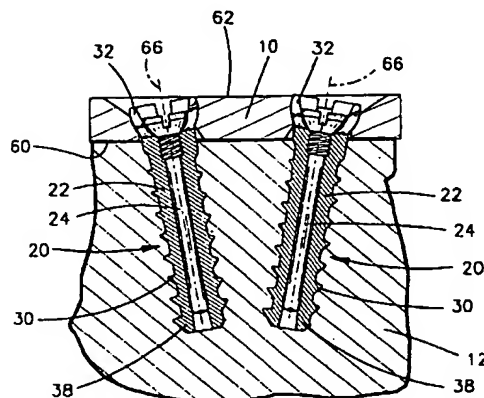


Fig.2

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 10 7977

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	WO 88 03781 A (RAVEH) * the whole document *	1-9	A61B17/80
A	WO 96 08206 A (SMITH & NEPHEW RICHARDS INC.) * the whole document *	1-9	
A	US 4 611 581 A (STEFFEE) * column 5, line 61 - column 6, line 57; figures *		
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.8) A61B
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 18 February 1998	Examiner Giménez Burgos, R
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

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